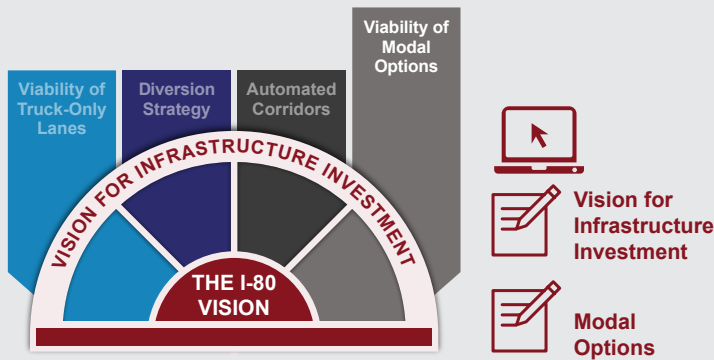


VIABILITY OF MODAL OPTIONS

The I-80 Vision is an integrated mobility solution for Iowa. It is the compilation of parts of multiple individual strategies that combine for a comprehensive, long-term solution. Together, these strategies provide a system framework for improving east-west travel across Iowa.



Strategy Description

Travel across central and southern Iowa is served by a system of transportation facilities: highways, rail, waterways and other modes of travel, including I-80. Each of these modes interacts with others and collectively serves Iowa's travel needs. While not a replacement for direct improvements to I-80, modal improvements could complement each other, improve the overall system's performance and be coordinated with the overall I-80 improvement plan.

Potential Transportation System Modes

- Intercity Passenger Rail / High Speed Rail
- Commuter Rail
- Over-the-Road Bus
- River, Air and Rail Freight
- Park and Ride Facilities
- Rural Transit
- Trails
- Special Generator Services
- Passenger Air Service
- Future Technologies

Features of the Strategy

This strategy would expand the various modes that comprise Iowa's transportation system, as each interacts with or complements I-80. Modal expansion could include capital improvements or higher level services. Construction of new high speed rail speed rail between Chicago and Omaha, called the Midwest Regional Rail Initiative, could reduce some traffic along rural I-80. Expanding existing over-the-road regional bus services throughout the Corridor, using existing providers, or expanding park and ride facilities could provide travelers more options. Combining these types of modal improvements provides a system of options to meet the diverse travel needs of Iowans. With the majority of future travel expected to occur along I-80, as occurs today, it will continue to be an integral part of Iowa's multimodal system.



Integration with the Vision

Expanding the modal system across Iowa cannot replace the need to improve rural I-80. However, there are opportunities to coordinate the various systems interactions. The modal improvements could be jointly developed in mutually beneficial locations.

Vision's Modal Coordination Provisions

- Coordinate the potential crossings of the future Midwest Regional Rail Initiative between Chicago and Omaha with I-80.
- Maintain existing and build two additional park and ride lots along rural I-80.
- Preserve five existing trails across or adjacent to rural I-80.

